

Message Text

SECRET

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11

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 CEA-02 COME-00

EB-11 EA-11 FRB-02 OPIC-12 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 LAB-06

SIL-01 OMB-01 SCEM-02 INT-08 SSO-00 DRC-01 SCI-06

/224 W

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R 230600Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8370

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

USMISSION OECD PARIS

S E C R E T KUWAIT 4444

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG PFOR XL

SUBJ: ARAB OIL EMBARGO

1. DURING MY MEETING WITH FONMIN DEC 20 AT SHERATON HOTEL ON ANOTHER SUBJECT, MINFINANCE AND OIL ATEEQI JOINED US FOR WORD WITH FONMIN HIMSELF. ATMOSPHERE WAS INFORMAL ENOUGH TO ALLOW ME EXPRESS TO ATEEQI HOPE THAT SCHEDULED END OF MONTH OAPEC MEETING WOULD RESULT IN DECISION LIFT OR LIGHTEN ARAB OIL EMBARGO. ARABS HAD MORE THAN MADE PLAIN THEIR SERIOUSNESS IN INSISTING ON ARAB RIGHTS IN MIDEAST, AND IT WAS NOW TIME TO ENCOURAGE USG

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EFFORTS TO HELP ACHIEVE JUST SETTLEMENT. I OPINED IT COULD BE

DANGEROUS IF, IN CURRENT EBB AND FLOW OF ACTION AND REACTION BETWEEN ARABS AND WEST, MOMENTUM OF BITTERNESS AND FEELING OF REVENGE WERE BUILT UP INSTEAD OF MUTUAL WILL TO SUCCEED IN FINDING SOLUTION TO PROBLEM.

2. ATEEQI SAID HE AGREED THERE WAS RISK, BUT ARABS DETERMINED THIS TIME TO PRESERVE THEIR CREDIBILITY; IF THEY CONFIRMED DECISION TO DECREASE PRODUCTION BY ANOTHER FIVE PERCENT IN JANUARY, THEY WOULD HAVE TO GO THROUGH WITH IT. OTHERWISE WORLD WOULD THINK ARABS ONLY BLUFFING ONCE AGAIN. MOREOVER, SAID ATEEQI, ARAB DEMAND FOR SOME EVIDENCE OF REAL PROGRESS TOWARD CONVINCING ISRAELIS TO WITHDRAW WAS NOT UNREASONABLE. I REPLIED ARABS SURELY WOULD WANT TO RETAIN COMPLETE FREEDOM TO LET UP QUICKLY WHEN IT BECAME CLEAR THAT PRESSURE THROUGH OIL WAS GOING TO START HURTING THEIR OWN INLAREST. I ADDED IT SEEMED TO ME THAT POINT HAD ALREADY BEEN REACHED.
STOLTZFUS

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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